Jesus
the Light of the World

Jesus
THE LIGHT of the WORLD

THOMAS NELSON
Since 1798

NASHVILLE MEXICO CITY RIO DE JANEIRO

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Cover by Koechel Peterson & Associates, Minneapolis, MN

Interior by Kristy Edwards, Smyrna, Tennessee

ISBN-SE: 9781404113954
ISBN-13: 9781404187627

Printed in the United States of America

14 15 16 17 18 POL 5 4 3 2

Preface

As we celebrate the Christmas season this year, it is our hope that *Jesus, the Light of the World* will bring a fresh, new encounter with Jesus for you and your loved ones. This thirty-day devotional has been designed for you to experience the love, joy, peace, and hope of the true Christmas season. May the presence of the Lord fill your heart, and may Jesus, the Light of the Christmas season, burn brightly as you enjoy this booklet.

Contents



Week 1 Love

God with Us

Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.
Isaiah 7:14

I never come to Christmas without thinking of the thousands of people who are lonely and troubled at this time of year. I have had psychiatrists tell me their schedules are overloaded with people who find the Christmas season almost more than they can bear because of their loneliness and isolation.

Christmas is God's reminder that we are not alone. God revealed in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus a reconciling love that rescues us from separation and loneliness. We are not alone; God has come down from Heaven to tell us He loves us!

At this Christmas season you can be assured that Jesus Christ is here. He is here to give us hope, to forgive our sins, to give us a new song, to impart faith, and to heal our spiritual wounds if only we will let Him.

The Christmas message has not changed after two thousand years. Christmas still reminds us that God is with us. If you are lonely this Christmas, welcome Christ into your life. Then ask Him to help you reach out to someone else who is lonely, and show that person His love.

(Billy Graham, *Hope for Each Day*)

Day 2

Love Is a Relationship

If God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.
1 John 4:11 RSV

The word *love,* as it is used in the biblical texts, has two obvious qualities. St. John, the master teacher on love . . ., taught that love has its own origins in God ("we love; because he first loved us"—1 John 4:19) and that it is a relationship with persons ("if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another"—1 John 4:11). Love is not a word that describes my feelings. It is not a technique by which I fulfill my needs. It is not an ideal, abstract and pure, on which I meditate or discourse. It is acting in correspondence with or in response to God in relation to persons.

(Eugene H. Peterson, *Traveling Light*)

HIS NAME IS JESUS

Joseph . . . took to him his wife, and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And He called His name JESUS.

MATTHEW 1:24–25

Joseph tanked his reputation. He swapped his *tsadiq* diploma for a pregnant fiancée and an illegitimate son and made the big decision of discipleship. He placed God's plan ahead of his own.

Rather than make a name for himself, he made a home for Christ. And because he did, a great reward came his way. "He called His name Jesus."

Queue up the millions who have spoken the name of Jesus, and look at the person selected to stand at the front of the line. Joseph. Of all the saints, sinners, prodigals, and preachers who have spoken the name, Joseph, a blue-collar, small-town construction worker said it first. He cradled the wrinkle-faced prince of heaven and with an audience of angels and pigs, whispered, "Jesus . . . You'll be called Jesus."

(Max Lucado, *Cure for the Common Life*)

An EXTRA-ordinary Night

Today your Savior was born in the town of David. He is Christ, the Lord.

Luke 2:11 NCV

An ordinary night with ordinary sheep and ordinary shepherds. And were it not for a God who loves to hook an "extra" on the front of the ordinary, the night would have gone unnoticed. The sheep would have forgotten, and the shepherds would have slept the night away.

But God dances amidst the common. And that night He did a waltz.

The black sky exploded with brightness. Trees that had been shadows jumped into clarity. Sheep that had been silent became a chorus of curiosity. One minute the shepherd was dead asleep, the next he was rubbing his eyes and staring into the face of an alien.

That night was ordinary no more.

The angel came in the night because that is when lights are best seen and that is when they are most needed. God comes into the common for the same reason. His most powerful tools are the simplest.

(Max Lucado, *The Applause of Heaven*)

The Summit of Love

Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know.
1 John 3:1

Mary and Joseph deeply loved the Child God gave them, even becoming refugees to spare His life when King Herod tried to kill Him (Matt. 2:13).

But their love was almost nothing compared with the infinite love of God for His Son. The Bible declares, "The Father loves the Son, and has given all things into His hand" (John 3:35). Can you even begin to imagine that Father's emotions that first Christmas as His dearly loved Son left Heaven for earth, knowing He would one day go to the Cross, "despised and rejected by men, a Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief" (Isa. 53:3)?

We rightly focus on God's love for us. But don't lose sight of what it cost the Father to send His beloved Son into the world. Why did He do it? Because "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

God loves the Son—and He loves you as well.

(Billy Graham, *Hope for Each Day*)

Day 6

Change Is Possible

Because Your lovingkindness is better than life, My lips shall praise You.
Psalm 63:3

No means of measure can define God's limitless love . . .
No far-seeing telescope can bring into visibility the coastline of His shoreless supply . . .
No barrier can hinder Him from pouring out His blessings . . .
He forgives and He forgets.
He creates and He cleanses.
He restores and He rebuilds.
He heals and He helps.
He reconciles and He redeems.
He comforts and He carries.
He lifts and He loves.
He is the God of the second chance,
The fat chance,
The slim chance . . .
Just give me Jesus! He makes change possible!
(Anne Graham Lotz, *Just Give Me Jesus*)

The Strength of God's Love

God shows his great love for us in this way:
Christ died for us while we were still sinners.
Romans 5:8 NCV

"Can anything make me stop loving you?" God asks. "Watch me speak your language, sleep on your earth, and feel your hurts. Behold the maker of sight and sound as he sneezes, coughs, and blows his nose. You wonder if I understand how you feel? Look into the dancing eyes of the kid in Nazareth; that's God walking to school. Ponder the toddler at Mary's table; that's God spilling his milk.

"You wonder how long my love will last? Find your answer on a splintered cross, on a craggy hill. That's me you see up there, your maker, your God, nail-stabbed and bleeding. Covered in spit and sin-soaked.

"That's your sin I'm feeling. That's your death I'm dying. That's your resurrection I'm living. That's how much I love you."

(Max Lucado, *In the Grip of Grace*)

Week 2

Joy

The Joy of Christmas

When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy.
Matthew 2:10

Every year people write me saying how much they dread Christmas. Often their complaint stems from how busy they will be, or how much money they will spend.

Did those wise men who journeyed hundreds of miles across the desert to seek out the infant Jesus ever feel that way? After all, it took months to make the arduous trip, and they had gone to great expense to provide gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh for the new child.

I doubt it. In fact, as their journey neared its end we read they had "exceedingly great joy." What made the difference? Their focus was totally on Jesus, the One who would be called "Immanuel, . . . God with us" (Matt. 1:23).

Don't let this Christmas season overwhelm you. Don't feel you have to do everything, or go into debt just to impress other people. Focus instead on Jesus. Take time every day to read the prophecies of His coming, and the wonderful story of His birth. Make this Christmas one of "exceedingly great joy"!

(Billy Graham, *Hope for Each Day*)

Hope Was Born

They shall obtain joy and gladnesss,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.
Isaiah 35:10

The black, velvety sky was clear and studded with sparkling stars that had looked down on Earth since the beginning of time. Shepherds appeared to be sitting idly by their flocks but in fact were keeping a sharp lookout for anything or anyone who might harm the sheep entrusted to their care. In the distance, the lights from the town could be seen and the noisy commotion could be heard as more people were coming into the town than the town could hold.

On the clear night air, sound traveled easily and somewhere from the direction of the village inn someone slammed a door.

And a baby cried.

The Seed of the woman, Who would open heaven's gate and welcome any and all who place their faith in Him . . . had been given!

The Hope that was born that night continues to radiate down through the years until it envelops your heart and mine.

(Anne Graham Lotz, *God's Story*)

God's Great Gifts

Thanks be to God for his gift
that is too wonderful for words.
2 Corinthians 9:15 NCV

Why did he do it? A shack would have sufficed, but he gave us a mansion. Did he have to give the birds a song and the mountains a peak? Was he required to put stripes on the zebra and the hump on the camel? . . . Why wrap creation in such splendor? Why go to such trouble to give such gifts?

Why do you? You do the same. I've seen you searching for a gift. I've seen you stalking the malls and walking the aisles. I'm not talking about the obligatory gifts. . . . I'm talking about that extra-special person and that extra-special gift. . . . Why do you do it? . . . You do it so the heart will stop. You do it so the jaw will drop. You do it to hear those words of disbelief, "You did this for *me*?"

That's why you do it. And that's why God did it. Next time a sunrise steals your breath or a meadow of flowers leaves you speechless, remain that way. Say nothing and listen as heaven whispers, "Do you like it? I did it just for you."

(Max Lucado, *The Great House of God*)

The Abundance of God

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace . . .
Galatians 5:22 RSV

We come to God . . . because none of us have it within ourselves, except momentarily, to be joyous. . . .

We try to get it through entertainment. We pay someone to make jokes, . . . sing songs, . . . but that kind of joy never penetrates our lives, never changes our basic constitution. The effects are extremely temporary. . . .

We cannot make ourselves joyful. Joy cannot be commanded, purchased, or arranged. But there is something we can do. We can decide to live in response to the abundance of God and not under the dictatorship of our own poor needs.

(Eugene H. Peterson, *A Long Obedience*)

Heavenly Herald

I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.
John 10:10

Christmas is not just a date on the calendar. It is not just an annual holiday. It is not a day to glorify selfishness and materialism. Christmas is the celebration of the event that set Heaven to singing, an event that gave the stars of the night sky a new brilliance.

Christmas tells us that at a specific time and at a specific place a specific Person was born. That Person was (in the words of an ancient Christian creed) "God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God"—the Lord, Jesus Christ.

From the lips of Him who came fell these words: "The Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10). Like piercing trumpets, these words heralded the breaking in of the Divine to human history. They declare that Heaven has come to our rescue and that God has not left us to stumble alone on Earth's pathway. What a wonderful and glorious hope we have because of that first Christmas!

(Billy Graham, *Hope for Each Day*)

New Every Morning

Great is your faithfulness! Yahweh is my portion, I tell myself, therefore I will hope.

Lamentations 3:23–24 RSV

The great phrase here is "Yahweh is my portion," a quote from the Torah. Centuries earlier the Lord had said it, and Levi had accepted it (Deut. 10:9; Num. 18:20). . . . The ancient phrase had been handed down through generations, held onto tenaciously through the worst of troubles.

The people knew there was a communion with a merciful God that could not be lost because it could not be touched by the dislocations of external circumstance. The chaos and darkness of suffering become first-day light. "Yahweh's mercy is surely not at an end, nor is his pity exhausted. It is new every morning. Great is your faithfulness!"

(Eugene Peterson, *Five Smooth Stones*)

The Servant

Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights.
Isaiah 42:1 NRSV

The servant role was completed in Jesus. Though there were auspicious signs that preceded and accompanied his birth, preparing the world for the majestic and kingly, the birth of Jesus itself was of the humblest peasant parentage, in an unimportant town, and in the roughest of buildings. He made a career of rejecting marks of status or privilege: He touched lepers, washed the feet of his disciples, befriended little children, encouraged women to join his entourage, and finally, submitted to crucifixion by a foreign power. Everything about Jesus spoke of servitude.

(Eugene H. Peterson, *Five Smooth Stones*)

Week 3 Hope

God Sent His Son

In Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily.

Colossians 2:9

On that first Christmas night in Bethlehem, "God was manifested in the flesh" (1 Tim. 3:16). This manifestation was in the person of Jesus Christ.

What an incredible truth! Think of it: The God of the universe came down from Heaven that first Christmas night and took human form! As the words of the familiar Christmas carol declare, "Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th' incarnate Diety."

If you want to know what God is like, then take a long look at Jesus Christ—because He was God in human flesh. In Him were displayed not only the perfections that had been exhibited in the creation—such wisdom, power, and majesty—but also such perfections as justice, mercy, grace, and love. "The Word was God. . . . And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:1, 14).

To His disciples Jesus said, "You believe in God, believe also in Me" (John 14:1). This sequence of faith is inevitable. If we believe in what God made and what God said, we will believe in the One whom God sent.

(Billy Graham, *Hope for Each Day*)

The Night of LIGHT

I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness.
John 8:12

This month the birthday of Jesus Christ will be celebrated all over the world. It will be celebrated in various ways, in many languages, by people of all races. For a few hours many in the world will stop talking of satellites, rockets, and war. For a few hours they will talk of peace on earth and good will toward men. People will exchange their gifts and talk about the Prince of Peace.

Imagine the scene in Bethlehem two thousand years ago. It was the night of nights, and yet it had begun as every other night had before it.

But it was to become the greatest, most significant night of history. This was the night that would conquer darkness and bring in the day when there would be no more night. This was the night when those who sat in darkness would see a great light. This was the night God brought into the world the One who is “the light of the world.”

May His light shine in your life this Christmas season!

(Billy Graham, *Hope for Each Day*)

God Sent Himself

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.
John 1:14

Don't we love the word "with"? "Will you go *with* me?" we ask. "To the store, to the hospital, through my life?" God says he will. "I am *with* you always," Jesus said before he ascended to heaven, "to the very end of the age" (Matt. 28:20 NIV). "I'll be with you if you behave . . . when you believe. I'll be with you on Sundays in worship . . . at mass." No, none of that. There's no withholding tax on God's "with" promise. He is *with* us.

God is with us.

Prophets weren't enough. Apostles wouldn't do. Angels won't suffice. God sent more than miracles and messages. He sent himself; He sent his Son. "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us."

(Max Lucado, *Cure for the Common Life*)

God Came Near

His kingdom will never end.
Luke 1:33 NCV

She looks into the face of the baby. Her son. Her Lord. His Majesty. At this point in history, the human being who best understands who God is and what He is doing is a teenage girl in a smelly stable. She can't take her eyes off Him. Somehow Mary knows she is holding God. So this is He. She remembers the words of the angel, "His kingdom will never end."

He looks like anything but a king. His face is prunish and red. His cry, though strong and healthy, is still the helpless and piercing cry of a baby. And he is absolutely dependent upon Mary for his well-being.

Majesty in the midst of the mundane. Holiness in the filth of sheep manure and sweat. Divinity entering the world on the floor of a stable, through the womb of a teenager and in the presence of a carpenter.

She touches the face of the infant-God.

(Max Lucado, *God Came Near*)

Overshadowed by the Spirit

The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.
Luke 1:35 NIV

When the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary, he gave her the startling announcement that "the Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God." When you and I place our faith in Jesus Christ and invite Him to come live within us, the Holy Spirit comes upon us, and the power of God overshadows us, and the life of Jesus is born within us. We do not conceive a physical life, but the spiritual life of Jesus in the Person of the Holy Spirit.

It is the indwelling powerful Person of the Holy Spirit Who sets me free from the habits of sin. But the power I possess to live a life pleasing to God is directly related to how much control of my life I give to the Holy Spirit.

(Anne Graham Lotz, *Just Give Me Jesus*)

God Is Fully Present

The Lord is near to all who call upon Him, to all who call upon Him in truth.
Psalm 145:18

On Christmas Eve, 1968, Frank Borman, James Lovell, and William Anders, while orbiting the moon in Apollo 8, were so aware of the Presence of God in space that they publicly read the first ten verses of Genesis to the listening world thousands of miles away. When James B. Irwin, an astronaut with Apollo 15, actually walked on the surface of the moon, he said he looked out into the inky blackness, saw our planet looking like a blue marble suspended in space, and was overwhelmed with the conscious awareness that God was present on the surface of the moon! And God was! And God is! He is not bound by space.

Whom are you praying for who is separated from you? A child? A spouse? What comforting encouragement to know that God is not only fully present with you but also with those from whom you are separated.

(Anne Graham Lotz, *God's Story*)

Becoming More Like Jesus

He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.
Philippians 1:6 NIV

The stronger I grow in faith, the closer I draw to Jesus, the more I learn to love and trust Him alone, the more disgusted, discouraged, depressed, and defeated I become over sin and failure in my life! I am sick of sin! *My sin!*

But there is hope for me! God's Word promises "that he who began a good work in [me] will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." What I will be like "has not yet been made known. But [I] know that when he appears, [I] shall be like him, for [I] shall see him as he is" (1 John 3:2 NIV). Praise God!

One day I will no longer struggle with sin.
I will no longer stumble and fall.
I will no longer falter and fail.
I will no longer be tried and tempted.
One day I will be like Jesus!

(Anne Graham Lotz, *The Vision of His Glory*)

Week 4 Peace

Infinite Grace

Grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.
John 1:17

The word *grace* means more than just God's kindness or gentleness toward us, or even His mercy. It means His undeserved favor. It means God owes nothing to us, and we deserve nothing from Him. When the Bible says, "by grace you have been saved" (Eph. 2:5), it means our salvation was totally unmerited. It came solely because of God's grace.

The *motive* of grace is the infinite, compassionate love of a merciful God, but the *work* of grace was Christ's death on the Cross. When I imagine Christ hanging from the Cross, the spikes in His hands, the crown of thorns on His brow, His blood draining from His body, the soldiers mocking Him—then I begin to see the depth of God's grace. Then I know that nothing can equal the infinite love of God for a sinful world.

But God's grace is also exhibited when we humbly bow before Christ in repentance and faith, for then we find forgiveness. Thank God for His grace, for without it we would have no hope!

(Billy Graham, *Hope for Each Day*)

THE PROMISE REMAINS

Joseph was the husband of Mary, and Mary was the mother of Jesus. Jesus is called the Christ.
MATTHEW 1:16 NCV

Seems like the only common bond between [Jesus' not-so-great grandparents] was a promise. A promise from heaven that God would use them to send his Son.

Why did God use these people? Didn't have to. Could have just laid the Savior on a doorstep. Would have been simpler that way. And why does God tell us their stories? . . .

Simple. . . . He wants us to know that when the world goes wild, he stays calm.

Want proof? Read the last name on the list [of Jesus' lineage]. In spite of all the crooked halos and tasteless gambols of his people, the last name on the list is the first one promised—Jesus.

No more names are listed. No more are needed. As if God is announcing to a doubting world, "See, I did it. Just like I said I would."

(Max Lucado, *When God Whispers Your Name*)

God Became Man

He gave up his place with God and made himself nothing.
He was born as a man and became like a servant.
Philippians 2:7 NCV

It all happened in a most remarkable moment . . . a moment like no other . . .

God became a man. Divinity arrived. Heaven opened herself and placed her most precious one in a human womb.

The omnipotent, in one instant, became flesh and blood. The one who was larger than the universe became a microscopic embryo. And he who sustains the world with a word chose to be dependent upon the nourishment of a young girl.

God had come near.

(Max Lucado, *God Came Near*)

Day 25

Unconditional Surrender

By this we know that He abides in us,
by the Spirit whom He has given us.
1 John 3:24

When the Holy Spirit comes into you at your invitation, you receive as much of Him as you will ever have. You do not get a little bit of Him then a little bit more at later experiences. Why is it, then, that He seems to get us in pieces? He comes to us unconditionally, while we surrender to Him conditionally.

We give Him our Sundays but not our Mondays.
We give Him our actions but not our attitudes.
We give Him our relationships but not our reputations.
We give Him our time but not our thoughts.
We give Him our burdens but not our bodies.
We give Him our prayers but not our pleasures.
We give Him our crises but not our children.
We give Him our health but not our hearts.
Would you drop the conditions and give Him all of you?

(Anne Graham Lotz, *Just Give Me Jesus*)

Jesus Cares for You

Casting all your cares upon Him, for He cares for you.
1 Peter 5:7

Did you think Jesus only cares about things like heaven and hell? About forgiveness and sin? About holiness and wickedness? About truth and lies? About salvation and judgment? Jesus does care about those things. But He also cares about your job, about whether your child makes the sports team, about your children's college tuition, about your budget now that you are unexpectedly pregnant, about the roof that leaks, about the cranky transmission in the car, and about all the other physical problems and needs we face.

Jesus cares even if the physical problem we face is largely of our own making. He cares if we are having car trouble, even if it was caused by our not having taken the time to change the oil regularly. He cares if we are having financial struggles, even if they were caused by our having run up massive debts on our charge accounts for things we wanted but did not necessarily need. Jesus cares about your physical needs today.

(Anne Graham Lotz, *Just Give Me Jesus*)

Perfect Peace

Your faith has saved you. Go in peace.
Luke 7:50

During the First World War, on Christmas Eve, the battlefield was strangely quiet. As the soft snow fell, the thoughts of the young men were of home and their families.

Softly one lad began to hum "Silent Night." Others took up the chorus until the trenches resounded with the Christmas song. When they finished they were astonished to hear the song echoing from the trenches across no-man's land: In their own tongue the other soldiers also sang "Silent Night." That night they were thinking of the Prince of Peace, the Christ of Christmas.

How different this world would be if we could unite together around that "Holy Infant so tender and mild." Earth can be as Heaven with Christ. Discord can be as peace when Christ is near. Midnight gloom can be transformed into noonday brightness when He abides with us.

Full peace will come only when Christ returns. But until that day we can know His peace in our hearts and can be messengers of His peace in the world, as we commit our lives to Him.

(Billy Graham, *Hope for Each Day*)

Source of Life

With your very own hands you formed me;
now breathe your wisdom over me.
Psalm 119:73 The Message

In the presence of birth, we are caught up in mystery. We respond with awe. Why? We can explain the process of birth. We know all the physiological and genetic details. But none of our explanations accounts for the awe.

In the presence of birth we are at the source of life. . . . Here is mystery, but a mystery of light not darkness, full of goodness, brimming with blessing. Every birth powerfully recalls us to this source: we have our origins in someone other than ourselves, and greater than ourselves.

(Eugene H. Peterson, *Where Your Treasure Is*)

Week 5 Jesus

Christ in the Midst

In the midst of the lampstands
I saw one like the Son of Man.
Revelation 1:13 nrsv

When St. John turned toward the trumpet voice . . . the first thing he saw was seven gold lampstands, "which are the seven churches" to which he was pastor. Then, in their midst, he saw the one "like a Son of Man" who was Jesus, the Christ.

It is not possible to have Christ apart from the church. We try. We would very much like to have Christ apart from the contradictions and distractions of the other persons who believe in Him, or say that they do. We want a Christ who is pure goodness, beauty, and truth. We prefer to worship Him under the soaring symphony, or by means of a penetrating poetry. . . .

But to all this aspiring aestheticism the gospel says No.

(Eugene H. Peterson, *Reversed Thunder*)

The Word Became Flesh

The Word became flesh and blood,
and moved into the neighborhood.
John 1:14 the message

The task of salvation is not to refine us into pure spirits so that we will not be cumbered with this too solid flesh. We are not angels, nor are we to become angels. The Word did not become a good idea, or a numinous feeling, or a moral aspiration; the Word became flesh. It also becomes flesh. Our Lord left us a command to remember and receive Him in bread and wine, in acts of eating and drinking. Things matter. The physical is holy.

(Eugene H. Peterson, *The Contemplative Pastor*)

The Christmas Story

Luke 2:1–14

And it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. So all went to be registered, everyone to his own city.

Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child. So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. Then the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger.”

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying:

“Glory to God in the highest,

And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!”

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Notes